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	SUBJECT:	NIC/ICS Seminar o	n Counternarcotics		25X1
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The Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D.C. 20505

NIC #02297-88 28 June 1988

National Intelligence Council

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Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH:

National Intelligence Officer for Warning

FROM:

William R. Kotapish

National Intelligence Officer for Counternarcotics

SUBJECT:

Report on 23 June 1988 NIO/Counternarcotics

Warning and Forecast Meeting

- 1. Representatives of the Intelligence Community and narcotics law enforcement personnel met on 23 June to discuss the following issues:
 - o The Department of State's experience in certifying the counternarcotics performance of foreign countries in 1987; the prospects for this process in 1988.
 - o The Drug Enforcement Administration's "Operation SNOWCAP."
 - o Bilateral initiatives being undertaken by member nations of the International Drug Enforcement Conference (IDEC).
- 2. Mr. Kotapish introduced of the IC Staff and noted that a joint session with collectors and producers will be scheduled for 21 July to look at narcotics intelligence collection and production strengths and weaknesses. The NIO/Counternarcotics also mentioned that we expect to hold a counternarcotics off-site conference circa 18 October.

Department of State Presentation

3. Mr. Rayburn Hesse, Department of State, reported that Congress will probably pass a new drug bill by mid-July which will provide new guidance but little new money for the international counternarcotics program. Congress is likely to turn its attention to additional countries to be put

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4. Mr. Hesse emphasized that State sees certification as a variable process from country to country, whereas the Congress is intent on implementing more stringent and standardized requirements. State is also working on negotiating bilateral agreements with some 24 major narcotics producing and trafficking countries. Mr. Hesse is certain that next year will be more difficult for the certification process with Mexico, The Bahamas and Paraguay coming under intense scrutiny.

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Presentation: "SNOWCAP"

- 5. Colonel Robert Brown, USA, detached to the DEA, gave a briefing on the DEA "SNOWCAP" operation. He stressed that the objectives of the operation were: 1) to locate and destroy cocaine labs; 2) to control coca growing areas; and 3) to neutralize cocaine trafficking organizations. He emphasized that a major effort was being put into reducing the flow of precursor chemicals into Latin America.
- 6. Currently, pursuant to "SNOWCAP" objectives, TDY teams consisting of DEA, US Coast Guard, and US Border Patrol representatives are positioned at three field deployment centers in the Chapare and Trinidad in Bolivia and the Upper Huallaga Valley in Peru. A fourth riverine interdiction team is planned for Ecuador. The TDY team in the Chapare is the model for future operations. Working in close conjunction with the Bolivian narcotics enforcement police, DEA and US Border Patrol officers are coordinating the effort of some 300 UMOPAR personnel, six helicopters, and a special forces team. The effort is directed at destroying airfields used by traffickers and the reduction of precursor chemicals coming into the country.

Drug Enforcement Administration Presentation: International Drug Enforcement Conference (IDEC)

7. Mr. Joseph Salvameni, DEA, gave a briefing on the cross-border bilateral operations planned among Latin American nations. He cited this as a direct outgrowth of the IDEC meetings and pointed out that the effort has been projected without dependence on US resources. Among the bilateral operations mentioned: 1) Venezuela-Colombia, 2) Brazil-Peru, 3) Colombia-Brazil, 4) Peru-Bolivia, 5) Mexico-Guatemala and 6) Costa Rica-Panama. These operations are to be directed against coca-processing laboratories and trafficking sites. He also noted that DEA is mounting a concerted effort to enlist European and Canadian enforcement support to counter anticipated trafficker flights out of Latin America. The majority of these cross-border operations are scheduled for late July to late August.

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	William R. Kotapish	
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